

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

SCI-06 NSF-04 EB-11 ACDA-19 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 OIC-04 NAS-01

ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EPA-04 AID-20 DRC-01 /197 W

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R 041347Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6210

UNCLAS GENEVA 3502

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: WMO

SUBJ: WMO: 26TH EC, PREP COM ROUND-UP

1. SUMMARY: PREP COM SESSIONS CONDUCTED IN BUSINESS-LIKE, NON CONTENTIOUS ATMOSPHERE, BUT POTENTIALLY TROUBLESOME POLITICAL ISSUES PASSED ON WITHOUT COMMENT TO EC. COOPERATION WITH UNEP GENERALLY ENDORSED, ALTHOUGH SOME CONCERN EXPRESSED THAT UNEP'S ACTIVITIES COULD LEAD TO DUPLICATION WMO ACTIVITY IF NOT WATCHED CAREFULLY. SECRETARY KISSINGER'S CLIMATE CHANGE PROPOSAL RECEIVED FAVORABLE COMMENT. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE REMAINS PRINCIPAL PREOCCUPATION OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. LA'S MAKING DETERMINED EFFORT FOR REGIONAL OFFICE. BRIEF GENERAL DEBATE ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR SEVENTH FINANCIAL PERIOD, WITH ASSIGNMENT TO WORKING GROUP TO EXPLORE SEC GEN'S PROPOSALS IN DETAIL AND REPORT DIRECTLY TO EC COMMITTEE. END SUMMARY.

2. WWW: PROPOSED PLAN FOR SEVENTH FINANCIAL PERIOD APPROVED BY PREP COM WITHOUT CHANGE. MAIN TRUNK CIRCUIT REROUTED MELBOURNE, TOKYO, NEW DELHI. GARP-FGGE DISCUSSED ROUTINELY WITH MAIN SUBSTANTIVE CONSIDERATION LEFT TO EC.

3. ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: IN INTRODUCING ITEM (DOC 51) SECRETARIAT REPORTED UNEP GC II VERY PRODUCTIVE SESSION IN UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTRAST FIRST. NOTED THAT SESSION MARKED BY SIGNIFICANTLY

INCREASED INTEREST IN CLIMATE CHANGE, THAT NATURAL DISASTERS RAISED TO PRIORITY CONCERN AND THAT INCREASED ATTENTION GIVEN TO LEGAL ASPECTS OF WEATHER MODIFICATION. WMO'S DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIP WITH UNEP GENERALLY ENDORSED IN SUBSEQUENT COMMENTS, ALTHOUGH SOME CONCERN EXPRESSED THAT UNEP ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE CAREFULLY WATCHED TO PREVENT OVERLAP AND DUPLICATION. SOVIET MEMBER (IZRAEL) MADE STRONG PITCH FOR WMO COMMUNICATION TO UNEP THAT WMO SHOULD BE DESIGNATED LEAD AGENCY IN DEVELOPMENT GEMS. UNEP RE THATCHER NOTED THAT INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON MONITORING HAD BEEN SET UP WITHIN ENVIRONMENT COORDINATION BOARD WITH SPECIFIC CHARGE TO PREVENT DUPLICATION. THIS IS CLEARLY SUBJECT WHICH WILL GET MORE CONSIDERATION IN EC ITSELF. SECRETARY KISSINGER'S CLIMATE CHANGE PROPOSAL RECEIVED FAVORABLE PRELIMINARY COMMENT. US COMMENDED SECRETARIAT FOR QUICK RESPONSE TO US PROPOSAL AND NOTED DOC 70 PREPARED IN RESPONSE US PERM REP'S REQUEST SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PROPOSAL BE BROUGHT TO EC ATTENTION) PROVIDED SOUND BASIS FOR ITS CONTINUATION BY EC. EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SECRETARIAT'S RECOGNITION THAT PROBLEM MULTI-DISCIPLINARY WOULD INVOLVE EVENTUALLY OTHER PARTS UN SYSTEM, ESPECIALLY UNEP AND FAO.

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. ALTHOUGH NO SYSTEMATIC DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE IN PREP COM, IT CLEAR FROM REPEATED STATEMENTS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT PREP COM THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WILL PUSH FOR MAJOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INCREASED AT SEVENTH CONGRESS. EMPHASIS PLACED ESPECIALLY ON CONTINUATION LONG-TERM FELLOWSHIPS AT GREATLY INCREASED LEVEL OF FINANCING, NEW PROGRAM OF SHORT-TERM FELLOWSHIPS (HITHERTO MET ENTIRELY FROM UNDP) AND REGIONAL PROJECTS FOR WHICH UNDP RESOURCES, AS RESULT NEW PROCEDURES, VIRTUALLY DRIED-UP, ACCORDING TO REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND SEC GEN. RELATED THIS SUBJECT IS QUESTION ESTABLISHMENT WMO REGIONAL OFFICES. THIS ISSUE FOCUSED AROUND LA REQUEST (DOC 61) CONSIDERED BY SIXTH CONGRESS, WHICH REQUESTED FURTHER CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO QUESTION BY EC. VENEZUELA REP ARGUED CASE FOR REGIONAL OFFICE AT LENGTH, AND ENDORSED BY REPS RA III AND IV. NO OTHER MEMBER SUPPORTED, BUT INFORMAL EXCHANGES OUTSIDE SESSION SHOWED AFRICANS FOLLOWING MATTER WITH KEEN INTEREST CLOSELY RELATED THEIR OWN ASPIRATIONS. ONLY US REP SPOKE IN PREP COM AGAINST ESTABLISHMENT REGIONAL OFFICES, ARGUING THAT INTERESTS REGION BEST SERVED BY UNCLASSIFIED

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REGIONAL DESK OFFICES AT HEADQUARTERS WHERE DAY-TO-DAY DECISIONS MADE.

5. PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR SEVENTH FINANCIAL PERIOD: THIS ITEM OCCASION FOR GENERAL STATEMENTS BY MOST REPS PRESENT, WITH DETAILED EXAMINATION SEC GEN'S PROPOSALS ASSIGNED TO WORKING GROUP WHICH WILL REPORT DIRECTLY TO EC COMMITTEE. MEMBERS TOOK PREDICTABLE POSITIONS BASED ON DEVELOPED-DEVELOPING

COUNTRY SYNDROME. DEVELOPING COUNTRY REPS WITHOUT EXCEPTION
COMMENDED SEC GEN'S PROPOSALS AND PLEDGED SUPPORT.
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES CRITICIZED LACK OF JUSTIFICATION FOR SIGNIFICANT
INCREASES, LEVEL OF STAFF PROPOSALS AND SIGNIFICANT INCREASES
PROPOSED IN TA. US AND AUSTRALIA EXPRESSED PARTICULAR
CONCERN ON LAST POINT. DEBATE WAS ON WHILE RESTRAINED, HOWEVER,
AND IT CLEAR MANY DELS HOLDING FIRE FOR EC ITSELF OR PERHAPS
EVEN CONGRESS.

6. FOR LACK OF TIME, SEVERAL FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
ISSUES AUNDER ITEM 9, INCLUDING CURRENCY AND PERIODICITY
OF WMO BUDGETS (DOC 63) WILL GO DIRECTLY TO EC COMMITTEE.
ALL POLITICAL ISSUES UNDER ITEM 9 REFERRED WITHOUT DEBATE
TO EC AS WELL AS NAOS DOC 35. SEC GEN'S RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR REVISIONS IN GENERAL REGULATIONS GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE WITH
MINOR EXCEPTIONS. SEE SEPTTEL ON REGULATION 18, DOC 74,
INVITATIONS TO OBSERVERS TO SESSIONS OF CONGRESS.ABRAMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: METEOROLOGY, BUDGETS, MEETING AGENDA, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974GENEVA03502
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740141-0977
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740678/aaaacpcg.tel
Line Count: 132
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 SEP 2002 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <08 JAN 2003 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WMO: 26TH EC, PREP COM ROUND-UP
TAGS: TPHY, WMO, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005